

MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

168 South Broad Street
Milford, Connecticut 06460

Phone: 203.874.1982
FAX: 203.877.8973

Order of Worship

9:30 a.m.

(* Those who are able may stand. °°° Late arrivals will be seated.)

THE BELL TOLLS – *Welcoming us to worship God*

PRELUDE “Blessed Jesus, We Are Here” J.S. Bach

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

(Please keep our focus on the worship of God by sharing those items not published elsewhere.)

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Trust in the Lord and do good.

People: *May the Lord give strength to the people!*

Leader: O taste and see that the Lord is good!

People: *God is our refuge and strength.*

*HYMN #120 “Your Love, O God” Finlandia

PRAYER OF THE DAY *(seated, unison)*

O God, our Guide and Guardian, you have led us apart from the busy world into the quiet of your house. Grant us grace to worship you in Spirit and in truth, to the comfort of our souls and the up-building of every good purpose and holy desire. Enable us to do more perfectly the work to which you have called us, that we may not fear the coming of night, when we shall resign into your hands the tasks which you have committed to us. So may we worship you not with our lips at this hour, but in word and deed all the days of our lives; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)* Traditional, India (Hymnal #535)

O God, like an ant on a stick both ends of which are burning, I go to and fro without knowing what to do, and in great despair. Like the inescapable shadow that follows me, the dead weight of sin haunts me. Graciously look upon me. Thy love is my refuge. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION AND WORDS OF PARDON

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THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES II Samuel 11:1-15 Bible p.281

Reader: The Word of the Lord. People: *Thanks be to God.*

*THE GOSPEL John 6:1-21 Bible p.971

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord. People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

*HYMN #628 “Eat this Bread” Berthier
(sung three times)

THE SERMON “Power Grab” Dr. Bodt

SOLO “Glory, Glory, Glory” Mark Platt, Soloist

PRAYERS OF PETITION AND INTERCESSION

Leader: Lord, in Your mercy, People: *Hear our prayer.*

THE LORD’S PRAYER Hymnal #895

*THE PEACE

L: May the peace of the Lord be always with you. P: *And also with you.*
(Greet one another with signs of Christ’s peace.)

A PRESENTATION FROM UMARMY Coordinated by Stacy Meszaros

Video presentation prepared by Hayley Lapadula

Personal Testimonies

“Church Clap”

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory Solo: “My Life’s a Present” Mark Platt, Soloist

*Presentation: “The Doxology” Hymnal #95

*Prayer of Dedication

*HYMN #507 “Through It All” Through It All
(sung twice)

A RITUAL OF HEALING ANOINTING

On the last Sunday of the month all are invited to come forward to receive a healing anointing for oneself or on behalf of another. Please come by the center aisle and return by the side aisles as we sing. Stand or kneel (as able) at the Communion rail and speak name and need to the anointer.

This ancient Church practice expresses God’s love as a mysterious, caring expression of Christ’s promise “I will be with you always.” Please remain in prayer until all have returned to their seats.

HYMNS *(seated, as needed)* #358, 509, 388 and 599

*HYMN #529 “How Firm a Foundation” Foundation

*THE BENEDICTION

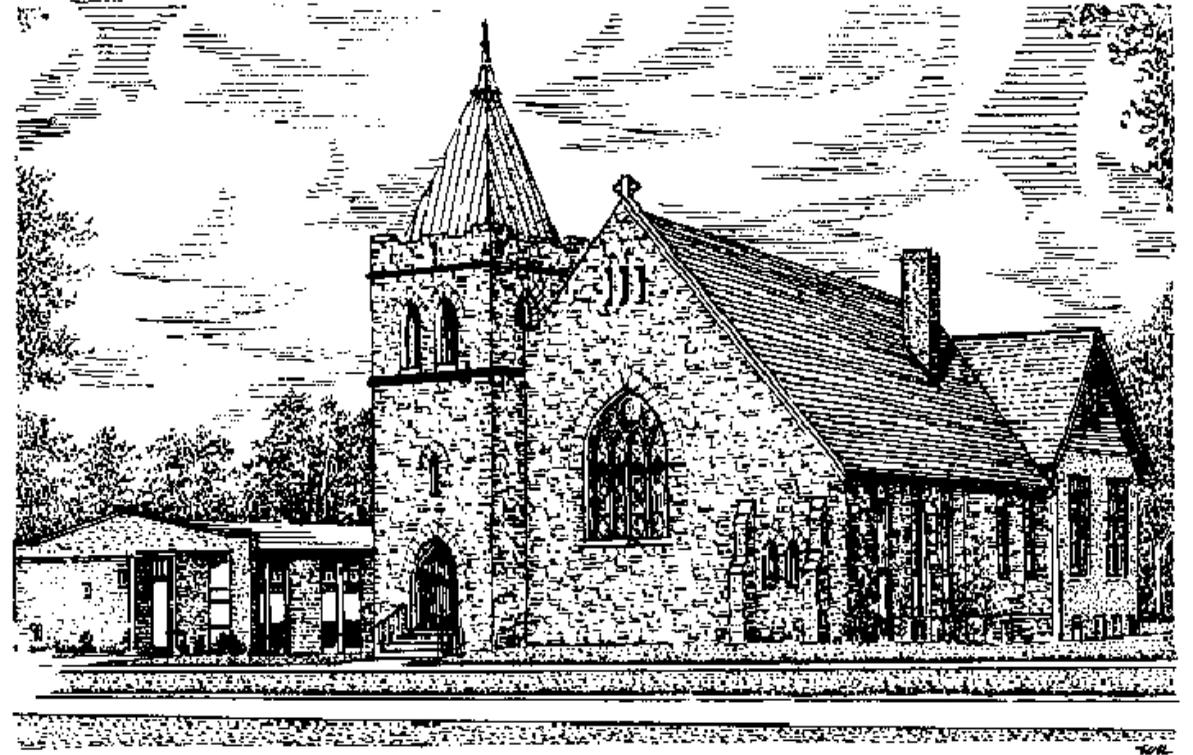
*THE BENEDICTION RESPONSE “Shalom to You” Hymnal #666

Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends. May God’s full mercies bless you, my friends.
In all your living and through your loving, Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.

*THE BELL TOLLS – *Sending us to walk with and witness for Jesus*

*POSTLUDE “Toccatà on ‘Built on a Rock’” G. Young
(During the postlude you may leave following the pastor or remain seated.)

THE WORSHIP IS ENDED: THE SERVICE BEGINS.



Mary Taylor Memorial United Methodist Church

First Methodist Church in Milford: 1836

Current building dedicated: 1893

Merged with Myrtle Beach Community Church: 1969

*Whoever you are, wherever you are
on your spiritual journey, you are welcome here.*

PENTECOST IX

July 26, 2015

Grace Notes
July 26, 2015

Dear Mary Taylor Memorial Church community,

I am confident you will enjoy the presentation from our youth today who attended UMARMY July 12-18. They are, and I am, grateful for your generous support. We did good work on homes in Wethersfield, Manchester and Newington, Connecticut while drawing closer to Christ by connecting faith with service.

One of the things youth take away from this experience is confidence in their own power to make a difference and change lives. "Power," by itself, is value neutral. What we do with power makes it "holy" or "unholy" and invests it with positive or negative meaning. My message today reflects on power and its abuse (King David and Bathsheba) and use (Jesus and the Feeding of the 5,000).

Years ago a leading evangelist called The United Methodist Church a "sleeping giant." Let us continue to pray and work to awaken the giant of our denomination but also the giant in our midst. Let the Holy Spirit embolden us to use power for good in our day.

Sincerely in Christ,

Pastor Brian

MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Website: www.mtm-umc.org

www.facebook.com/MTMUMC

E-mail:

mtmumc@sbcglobal.net

Ministers All the People of God
Lay Leaders Kelly O'Hara & Leigh Bak
Prayer Chain Stacy Meszaros
Administrative Assistant Mary Lou Kampert
Sexton Bruce Rumford
Child Care Coordinator Nicole Ellerbeck

Bishop The Rev. Jane Allen Middleton
Superintendent The Rev. Kenneth Kieffer
Pastor The Rev. Dr. Brian R. Bodt
Pastoral Assistant The Rev. Harold V.W. Vink
Music Director Dr. Richard L. Riccardi



AT WORSHIP TODAY

Head Usher – Dave Doyle

Greeters – Wendy Hoffman and Tom Beyer

Liturgist – Ken Hawkins

Healing Anointers – Pastor Hal, Mary Lou Hastings, Priscilla James, Bob Lawrence and Mark Platt

GREETING YOU AFTER WORSHIP are Pastor Brian and Ken Hawkins.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS today: Happy fourth birthday in heaven Charlene Riccardi, love Rick, Stacey, Jenn, Jason and Aiden.

TO ASSIST YOU IN WORSHIP, see our ushers for:

- Large print Bibles, hymnals and bulletins
- Hearing Assist Devices
- Children’s bulletins for ages 3 – 6 and 7 – 12

CHILD CARE for children 5 and under is provided in Wesley Center, the building next door. You may also hear the service in Dodd hall should your child become restless. Please note that children over five are expected to remain in the sanctuary; the child care in Wesley Center is not staffed to provide for older children. Our Safe Sanctuary policy requires that children leaving the sanctuary must be accompanied by an adult or guardian.

PLEASE OFFER PRAYER CONCERNS using the "Blue Sheets" in the attendance pads in each pew; or obtain one from an usher. Ushers collect them on the opening hymn and our Lay Leaders speak them during the Prayer of Intercession and Petition. Please obtain others’ permission to share their concerns. Prayers are included in our on-line prayer chain and Monday night Healing Service. You are also invited to speak your concerns when we pray.

TODAY’S LITURGY is taken from Holy Scripture, The United Methodist Hymnal (1989) and The United Methodist Book of Worship.

WELCOME VISITORS! May you experience God’s presence with us. Please complete a red visitor’s card (in the pew racks) and wear the “Visitor” name tag to help us greet you warmly. Our Ambassadors will look for you! **CHURCH INFORMATION** is available in the racks in back of the church.

SERMON COPIES from previous Sundays are in the rear of the church or at www.mtm-umc.org.

AUGUST “BEACON” (our monthly newsletter) copies are available in the rear of the church.

~Three week calendar at Mary Taylor Memorial~

<i>Sunday, July 26</i>	<i>9:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Worship-- Sanctuary</i>
	<i>10:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Summer Punch Bowl – Courtyard</i>
<i>Monday, July 27</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Service of Healing and Wholeness – Chapel</i>
<i>Wednesday, July 29</i>	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Building Committee meeting – Egan Room</i>
<i>Thursday, July 30</i>	<i>10:00a.m.</i>	<i>Office Volunteers</i>
<i>Friday, July 31</i>	<i>The Church Office is closed – summer hours</i>	
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<i>Sunday, August 2</i>	<i>9:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Worship-Holy Communion - Sanctuary</i>
	<i>10:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Summer Punch Bowl – Courtyard</i>
	<i>10:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Boys & Girls Village School Supply Drive through August 9th</i>
<i>Monday, August 3</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Service of Healing and Wholeness – Chapel</i>
<i>Thursday, August 6</i>	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Office volunteers-Gunn Library</i>
<i>Friday, August 7</i>	<i>The Church Office is closed – summer hours</i>	
	<i>6:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Summer Hang Out – Rumrunners Pop & Rock concert (7pm) at Fowler Field (behind Milford library)</i>
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<i>Sunday, August 9</i>	<i>9:15 a.m.</i>	<i>Informal Singing - Sanctuary</i>
	<i>9:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Worship-- Sanctuary</i>
	<i>10:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Summer Punch Bowl – Courtyard</i>
	<i>10:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Boys & Girls Village School Supply Drive ends today</i>
	<i>11:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Sunday School Teacher’s meeting – Sunday School office</i>
<i>Monday, August 10</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Service of Healing and Wholeness – Chapel</i>
<i>Wednesday, August 12</i>	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Building Committee meeting – Egan Room</i>
<i>Thursday, August 13</i>	<i>10:00a.m.</i>	<i>Office Volunteers</i>
<i>Friday, August 14</i>	<i>The Church Office is closed – summer hours</i>	
<i>Saturday, August 15</i>	<i>Beacon Information is Due today</i>	
	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Milford Oyster Festival</i>

ADVANCE PLANNING AND “SAVE THE DATES”

MILFORD OYSTER FESTIVAL will be Saturday, August 15th. Our Men’s Club typically serves food on the church campus and invites any who wish to assist them to do so. **Contact Jim Repetsky at 203.874.8688.**

OUTSIDE TENT WORSHIP will be Sunday, August 16th, 9:30 a.m. If you are new to Mary Taylor Memorial Church you will enjoy this special opportunity to worship outside in the courtyard under the tent!

OUR SUMMER CHURCH PICNIC will be Sunday, August 23rd at Rivercrest Farm (and home of Maria and Andy Macri). More to come in the August “Beacon.”

CONFIRMATION CLASS will be taught Tuesdays from 5:45 – 6:45 p.m. beginning September 15th in the Egan Room, Wesley Center, 2nd Floor. Unconfirmed youth entering the 8th grade or older are encouraged to attend.

“**COVENANT**”, a 24 week comprehensive study of the Bible, will be taught on Tuesday evenings, 7 – 9:15 p.m. High School Room, Wesley Center, 1st Floor, beginning in September by Sandy Morgan, Certified Lay Servant, and Holly Firmender. If you are interested in knowing more, contact Sandy (sgmorgan@aol.com or 203.874.4374) or Don Hastings (nctmwash@aol.com or 203.877.4554).

“**REVIVAL: Faith as Wesley Lived It**” is a six-week study of the origins of Methodism. It will be taught by Pastor Brian September 15/16 – October 20/21 on Tuesday evenings from 7 – 8:30 p.m. and Wednesday mornings from 10 – 11:30 a.m. in the Gunn Library, Wesley Center, 2nd Floor. Please contact Pastor Brian if you would like to attend (brian.bodt@yahoo.com or 203.874.1982).

ISAIAH, JEREMIAH AND LAMENTATIONS is an eight-week Immersion Bible Study course of these prophets. It will be taught by Pastor Hal. We will divide the study around the holiday time from Thanksgiving through New Year’s, so there will be two four-week sessions: October 27/28 – November 17/18 (Isaiah) and January 5/6-26/27, 2016 (Jeremiah/Lamentations). These sessions will be Tuesday evenings from 7 – 8:30 p.m. and Wednesday mornings from 10 – 11:30 a.m. in the Gunn Library, Wesley Center, 2nd Floor. Please contact Pastor Hal if you would like to attend (vinkhaljane@gmail.com or 203.878.8977).

WE SEEK MUSICIANS TO OFFER SPECIAL MUSIC DURING THE SUMMER.

Our choirs are in recess in the summer, so we welcome special music. Contact Rick Riccardi (riccardir1@southernct.edu; 203.506.7270).

ACTIVITIES AND INFORMATION TODAY

SUMMER PUNCH BOWL continues through September 6th, following worship, in the Courtyard – weather permitting. Today’s hosts are the Pastor Brian and Carol Galloway. **SUMMER PUNCH BOWL HOST OPENINGS ARE AUGUST 2, 16 and 23 and SEPT. 6.** **Summer Punch Bowl will not be held on Sundays without a host.** Please sign up on the sign-up sheet on the refrigerator in Dodd Hall, or call the church office at 203-874-1982.

WESLEY CENTER RENOVATION UPDATE: The elevator arrived Wednesday evening and was being unloaded Thursday as this issue went to press. We are currently on schedule for an end of August completion to construction. Ribbon cutting and celebrative dedication will be Saturday, October 3, 4-6 p.m. There will also be a formal litany of dedication at 10 a.m. worship on Sunday, October 4. Watch for details in the September “Beacon.”

THIS WEEK

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We have some members who cannot get to our Sunday Services. We are looking for volunteers who can help out other parishioners by picking them up on the way to church. Please contact Michelle Craig at 203-877-4332 or michellemtmumc@gmail.com, or Don Hastings at 203-877-4554 nctmwash@aol.com, if you would like to volunteer.

BETH-EL CENTER – needs your donations! As a volunteer at the Beth -El Center, who packs “Meals To Go” lunches to give out at 5 pm daily, we have run out of bottles of water to give out with the meals. It’s especially important to have water available for people in this heat. Please consider dropping off a case or two of bottled water to help those who are in need and dependent on the center for their meals. Donations are most appreciated!! Thank you. Mary Lou Kampert, Administrative Assistant, Mary Taylor.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT MILFORD HOSPITAL. The Milford Hospital Volunteer Services Department is looking for some special people to fill volunteer positions in the hospital. Opportunities include patient care areas. Currently, the greatest need is for those individuals who have an early or mid-afternoon to volunteer at the Information Desk or Gift Shop, also afternoon or evening hours working in our Emergency Room or Walk In Center on the Post Road. If you are interested in learning more about our volunteer program and can make a weekly minimum commitment of two to three hours, please contact the Volunteer Service Department at 203-876-4062 to register for our next Orientation Session which will be offered on Thursday, August 20th from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm in Auditorium B.

NEXT SUNDAY

PENTECOST X - We will celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper using sung Setting B. Pastor Brian will celebrate the Sacrament and preach the message "I Am" based on John 6:24-53.

ADDITIONAL MINISTRY INVITATIONS

TRASH AND TREASURES UPDATE: Trash and Treasures is accepting donations up to August 11 for the Oyster Festival. Please note we are only accepting winter clothing. Put them near or on the cashier tables. We are experiencing growing pains along with less storage space so please check with Dolly Bonisch, 203-783-9952 before dropping off large items. **Please do not donate: hangers, summer clothing, TV's, computers, old printers, mattresses, baby car seats or helmets of any kind, ski boots, old computer books, obsolete editions of educational books or books in disrepair. Thank you in advance for donating items that are clean and not in need of repair. PLEASE DO NOT DONATE FOOD OR BEVERAGE ITEMS.**

WOULD YOU LIKE TO DONATE ALTAR FLOWERS OR A MISSION CROSS?

Contact Beth O'Brien at 203.877.8668 or bgobrien@optonline.net. Flowers are \$20. A donation in lieu of flowers to support missions is honored with a cross and miniature mission scarf on the altar. Checks for either are payable to MTMUMC and mailed to Beth O'Brien, 7 Breakneck Court, 06460. **AVAILABLE DATES: August 9, 16, 23, 30 and September 6 and 13. If you would like to donate, please contact Beth.**

YOU'RE INVITED to become a **Lay Signer of the Covenant of Conscience**. Being a Lay Signer means you believe all God's children, regardless of sexual orientation, should be given the privilege and honor to be married in our sanctuary by our Pastor.

As you may know, Mary Taylor Memorial UMC is a Congregational Signer of the Covenant of Conscience. **HOWEVER**, our work is **NOT DONE!** One action that we all can take is to become a **LAY SIGNER** of the Covenant of Conscience. To sign, please go to <http://www.mindny.org/mind-initiatives/marriage-initiative/covenant-of-conscience/> and **click on the link "To add your name."**

Thank you ~ Eileen Doyle, Gay/Straight Alliance Co-chair

MTMUMC HAS TWO SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS for students enrolled in a full time program of post high school studies: 1. Kelsey-Worley Scholarship Fund for students enrolled in a college/university program and 2. Men's Club "Jimmy" Scholarship Fund for students enrolled in a trade/vocational program. For information and applications, refer to the church website at www.mtm-umc.org and select the "Scholarships" button. Committee Members are: Diana Cable, Chris Carveth, Greg D'Andrea, Wil Wright, and Joan Zauner. Questions? Please contact Wil Wright at 203-877-5021.

FIRST UMC OF SHELTON presents **Pennsylvania Dutch Tour** with Biblical Show "JOSEPH" **September 29 to October 1, 2015.** Flyers are on the table in the rear of the sanctuary if you would like to sign up for this fun trip.

OUR LIFE IN PRAYER, MINISTRY AND MISSION

SUMMER CHURCH OFFICE HOURS are **Mon. – Thurs., 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.** **The office is closed on Fridays until September.** Please note that when only one staff person is in the Wesley Center during office hours the building is locked. If you find this, thank you for calling the office (203.874.1982) or ringing the Broad Street doorbell.

BULLETIN NOTICES are **due by noon Wednesday** for the following Sunday bulletin.

FOOD BASKET: Please place non-perishable food items in the basket located in the back of the church & monetary donations in the Beth-El envelope.

ANIMAL SHELTER DONATIONS: Wet and dry cat food is still needed for seniors with pets, but the Animal Control is not allowed to take in peoples' released pets. However, they do take care of kittens and will spay and neuter feral cats as has been the policy for years. They also request towels and blankets for the animals. Please leave food items in the back of the church or take to the Milford Animal Shelter at Silver Sands State Park.

CONTACTING THE PASTORS: **Pastor Brian** (brian.bodt@yahoo.com: 203.874.1982, ext. 11 or 203.895.3753) is typically in office 9 – Noon, Mon. – Thurs. **Pastor Hal Vink** can be reached at 203.878.8977 or vinkhaljane@gmail.com. Please inform them or the office (203.874.1982, mtmumc@sbcglobal.net) of pastoral care needs and hospitalizations.

"FIX IT BOX" is in Dodd Hall. See a need? Drop a completed form in the box.

WE HOST Alcoholics Anonymous AND Gamblers Anonymous WEEKLY. Please call the church office for the schedule or see it posted on the bulletin boards.

PLEASE NOTE: During a medical or other emergency the Head Usher or a designee will call #911. Please do not call on your cell phone as multiple calls may delay response.

VITAL CONGREGATION WEEKLY REPORT FOR July 19th:

Total worship attendance all services: 129; July 19th: 125; Healing and Wholeness, July 20th:4; Total Offerings (minus "Lift Us Up) for July 19th: \$5,203.36; "Lift Us Up" Capital Campaign gifts \$1,190.00; Amount given to Charities and Benevolences: \$0; Engaged in Small Groups:15; (Office Volunteers 12; Trash & Treasures: 3; Total persons received on profession of faith: 0; Total Persons involved in local, national, and international missions: 0.) *Small Groups – please contact the church office mtmumc@sbcglobal.net or 203.874.1982) with your attendance.